



Abraham Lincoln, in this photograph taken before he was elected President, retains some aspects of the ungainly young circuit lawyer of earlier years. In those days, as he traveled from town to town, Lincoln was in the habit of sleeping in a homemade yellow flannel undershirt. Thus attired, he was described by a fellow lawyer as "the ugliest figure I ever saw."



Long before the Lincoln-Douglas debates the two reportedly competed in another race, for the hand of Mary Todd. Instead of Stephen A. Douglas (above) she wed "Him who has the best prospect of being President," but Douglas was not a bitter man. Years later, young Robert Lincoln arrived at Harvard carrying a letter of introduction from Douglas.